

REMARKS

Claims 10-19 are pending in this Application. In this Office Action the Examiner requires Applicant to elect a single invention because they allegedly do not form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

Particularly, the Examiner identifies:

Group I: Claims 10-16 and 19 drawn to an apparatus that is an ice cream confection machine; and

Group II: drawn to a method for making an ice cream product.

In reply to the restriction requirement, Applicant herein elects Invention I, Claims 10-16 and 19 *with traverse*.

Applicant respectfully supports this traversal by pointing out that the claims recite an ice confection production process that may be completed by two full revolutions of a specific mould cavity on the belt, wherein this recitation provides a special technical feature that is both common to all of the claims and not taught in the prior art.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims do relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1. Applicant respectfully requests removal of the Restriction Requirement.

Should the above traversal be unsuccessful, Applicant respectfully reserves the right to pursue the withdrawn claims in a related application(s) without prejudice.

Prosecution on the merits is respectfully requested. The foregoing is believed to be fully responsive to the outstanding Office Action.

Conclusion

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's attorney at the below-listed phone number regarding this Response or otherwise concerning the present application.

Applicant hereby petitions for any extension of time necessary under 37 C.F.R. §§1.136(a) or 1.136(b).

If there are any charges due with respect to this Amendment or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 06-1130 maintained by Applicant's attorneys.

Respectfully submitted,

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